Export of Textiles

4363. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government propose to liberalise textiles export;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (b) There are no restrictions on the exports of textile products from India, other than an annual quantitative ceiling on cotton yarn exports, which is announced after careful consideration of all relevant factors such as production and domestic demand in respect of cotton, production and prices of cotton yarn, requirement of yarn or the decentralised handloom sector etc.

However, the U.S.A., the E.C. countries, Canada and Norway apply quantitative restraints (quotas) on the import of certain textile and clothing products from India and other countries. These importing countries have to remove the quantitative restrictions on all textile products, in a phased manner, by 1.1.2005, in terms of the provisions of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) of the WTO.

World Bank Assistance for Rubber Production

4364. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sought any financial assistance from the World Bank to boost production of rubber in the country;

(b) if so, the amount sought for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government of Tripura has also sought any financial assistance from the World Bank; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government and the World Bank in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A rubber project with assistance from the World Bank has been under implementation from 1993-94. The Total cost of the Project is Rs. 445.20 crores out of which IDA credit is US $ 92.0 million (Rs. 290.08 crores).

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Garments

4365. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the import of readymade garments made during each of the last three years and the amount spent thereon; and

(b) the country from where these readymade garments are being imported ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) The amount spent on import of Readymade Garments during the last three years has been as follows :-

Year	Rs. in Crores
1993-94	5.31
1994-95	5.28
1995-96	5.99

(b) The Philippines, Hong Kong, the U.S.A., South Korea, Italy, China and the U.K. are some of the major countries from where readymade garments have been imported.

Production and Export of Coffee

4366. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the production and export of Coffee made during 1996-97 upto December 31, 1996 and the foreign exchange earned during the same period;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to bring more areas under Coffee cultivation in non-conventional Coffee growing areas like Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and N.E. States during the above period;

(c) the exhibitions or trade fairs in which Coffee Board participated during the above period; and

(d) the amount spent on publicity in India and abroad by Coffee Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Production of coffee estimated in Coffee Year 1996-97 (July to June) and exports of coffee from 1.4.96 upto 31.12.96 and the foreign exchange earned are as follows :-

Production	2,05,000 tonnes.
Export	1,38,994 tonnes
Value realised	Us $ 325.76 million
From export of coffee	(Rs. 1066.64 crores)